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New Stamp Printer

The latest Canada Post *Details* magazine describes the upcoming stamp issues for April to June 2002.

Careful study of the listings shows that Canada has a new stamp printer, and, they are located in Canada!

The Lowe-Martin Group of Ottawa, Ontario will have as its first postage stamp printing, the Tulips self-adhesive booklet to be issued May 3, 2002.

By the way, The Lowe-Martin Group was one of the two printer's of *The Millennium Collection* containing the infamous 68 Millennium stamps.

A quick check of their website (www.lmgroupp.com) does not give any information as yet about their postage stamp printing involvement with Canada Post. ♣

Postage Donation

A great big thanks to Mirko Zatka for his donation of postage to our study group for use in mailing the *Corgi Times*. His \$107.59 donation is a tremendous help to our group.

By the way, I received an anonymous donation of \$88.47 in Canadian postage from an overseas collector last July — many thanks to whoever you are! ♣



Greeting Stamps — Series II

See page 72

Queen's Jubilee

I completely *missed* the opportunity in last month's *Corgi Times* to show off the new stamp issued for the Queen's Jubilee!

Here we are, a study group devoted to the stamps of the Elizabethan era and one of the most significant stamps of the year should have been illustrated. Here goes:



Scott 1932

Canada issued a 4¢ value on June 1, 1953 to mark the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II and a 25¢ value was issued February 4, 1977 to mark the 25th anniversary. ♣

Correction

Oops! On page 55 of the last issue of *Corgi Times* (Jan–Feb 2002) there was a conversion error in one of the numbers found in Robert Elias' article on the *Fluorescent Varieties of the 2¢ Wilding Miniature Pane*.

The very last number in the table should read 1.6% rather than 0.016.

Our apologizes to Robert for this display error. ♣

Who are We?

We are the Elizabethan II Study Group under the auspices of the British North America Philatelic Society (BNAPS) — *The Society for Canadian Philately*.

Our journal, the *Corgi Times* is published 6 times a year.

With the exception of the 1967–73 *Centennial Definitives*, we study *all* aspects of Canadian philately during the Elizabethan era.

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Please make cheques payable to "The Elizabethan II Study Group" and send to Robin Harris, Editor at the address listed to the right.

Articles with *no* by-line are written or compiled by the Editor. All articles are ©2002 by the author and/or the Elizabethan Study Group.

Canada Post News

Do we like more stamps being issued by Canada? Sure we do! Every new issue is a part of the Elizabethan era — right up our alley. Here is what Canada Post is up to these days...

UPC Barcodes on 25¢ Traditional Trades

Our prediction in the last issue of the *Corgi Times* came true — the third printing of the 25¢ Traditional Trades stamp, with the barcode on the selvage, *was* available just after the last issue of the *Corgi Times* was printed and mailed.

What is very noteworthy about this particular barcode is that it is *inverted* in comparison to the stamp design. This is opposite to the barcodes seen on the 1¢, 5¢, and 10¢ Traditional Trades stamps.

Canada Post Details

The latest Canada Post *Details* magazine — Apr–Jun 2002 issue — was being received by collectors in the first and second weeks of March. My copy, in Saskatoon, arrived on the 18th!; Winnipeg received theirs on the 13th; southern Ontario on the 11th–12th; Eastern Canada started seeing theirs around the 7th and 8th.

As noted on the first pages of this issue, *study* your *Details* magazine closely. Every issue has at least one surprise (if not more) in it. This particular issue notes there is a new printer in town; well in Canada at least. The Lowe-Martin Group of Ottawa, Ontario has begun printing Canadian postage stamps. This is welcome news for those Canadians who were saddened to hear that Ashton Potter had moved their printing of Canadian stamps to their USA branch.

Bird Envelopes

Feb 15 saw the release of two *non-denominated* envelopes (size 8 and 10) portraying birds. The two designs were first seen on postage stamps issued in the past: the size 8 envelope features the American Goldfinch as illustrated on 46¢ stamps (Sc# 1772 and 1776) issued February 24, 1999; the size 10 envelope features the Scarlet Tanager which is a *reversed image* of a 45¢ stamp (Sc# 1634) issued January 10, 1997.

Of note is that these are the first Canadian regularly-issued envelopes to be "self-adhesive". That is, the flaps have a peelable liner that exposes a self-sticking flap.

Corgi Times

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Study Group Business

New Member

Welcome to new members:

< Vernon Richards, Victoria, BC

E-mail additions/corrections

None to report in this issue.

Planning Calendar

This is a listing of major exhibitions and bourses with a large content of both Canadian Exhibits and Canadian dealers. Minimum listing criteria: two day event; 1000 page exhibition; 18 dealer bourse with 50% offering Canadian material.

The goal is to list events far in advance to encourage either exhibiting or attendance and preferably both.

2002

Sep 26–29: **APPLE HARVEST 2002**, hosting **BNAPEX 2002**. Spokane, Washington. Spokane Convention Center. Info: John D. Arn; Tel: 509-467-5521; Fax: 509-467-2282; E-mail: JohnDArn@aol.com.

What is Your Opinion?

Scott Publishing Company has announced the Scott numbers for the new rate-change definitives issued this past January — these are noted in the Canada Post 2002 Stamp Program listing found on the next page. Take a moment to peruse these numbers and see if you spot something of interest, then come back and continue reading...

What did you notice about the new numbers that Scott has assigned to these definitives? Scott did *not* leave blank numbers for any future definitives that may share the same design! Is this a new policy that Scott is implementing?

The 48¢ Leaf (Sc# 1927) shares the same design as the 47¢ value (Sc# 1878) issued two years ago. The three new medium-value Traditional Trades definitives (Sc# 1928–1930) *belong* with the low-value Trades stamps issued back in April 1999 (Sc# 1673–1680).

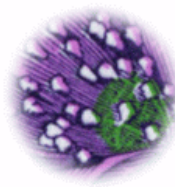
Some people are of the opinion that *all* stamps should be numbered in the *order that they appear* while others would like stamps of the same series or design elements to be grouped together. The latter is almost always quite hard to do as the Scott Publishing Company, nor even Canada Post I'm sure, knows exactly how many stamps will finally appear in any given series. ♣

Quiz

How well do you look at the details in each stamp design? Can you identify what Canadian Elizabethan stamps these details belong to.

More importantly, **what do all of these stamps have in common?**

For bonus points, what other Elizabethan-era stamps share the same characteristic as these? ♣



Last issue's Quiz answer: the detail belongs to Scott# 1235, the 38¢ Joseph Burr Tyrrell (Explorers) stamp issued March 22, 1989.

Canada Post 2002 Stamp Program

Issue dates are subject to change by Canada Post.

Scott numbers as of the March 2002 *Scott Stamp Monthly* (Mar 10/02)

Issued	Description	Scott#
Jan 2	Rate change definitives: 65¢, 77¢, \$1.25 are medium-size Traditional Trades <ul style="list-style-type: none"> < 48¢ Stylized Maple Leaf, coil of 100 < 65¢ Jewelry, coil of 50 and booklet of 6 < 77¢ Basket weaving, coil of 50 < \$1.25 Sculpture, coil of 50 and booklet of 6 < 48¢ Flag over Canada Post Building (booklet of 30) (two different barcodes on cover) 	1927 1928 1929 1930 1931
Jan 2	48¢ Queen Elizabeth II — Golden Jubilee issue, pane of 16	1932
Jan 3	Year of the Horse <ul style="list-style-type: none"> < 48¢, pane of 25 (individual stamp is octagonal shaped) < \$1.25 souvenir sheet (uncut press sheet of 12 also available) 	1933 1934
Jan 12	48¢ National Hockey League, 6 designs in pane of 6 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> < All-Stars: Tim Horton, Guy Lafleur, Howie Morenz, Glenn Hall, Red Kelly, Phil Esposito 	
Jan 25	48¢ 2002 Olympic Winter Games (block of 4 designs) in pane of 16	
Feb 1	48¢ Canadian Governors General, pane of 16	
Feb 15	Birds of Canada - envelopes (non-denominated domestic use only) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> < (48¢) The American Goldfinch (size 8) < (48¢) Scarlet Tanager (size 10) 	
Feb	Revised coil display cards: Canada Post logo is now in colour; revised text between CP logo and barcode <ul style="list-style-type: none"> < 48¢ Stylized Maple Leaf, coil of 100 < 65¢ Jewelry, coil of 50 (roll has revised die cutting at start and end of backing paper) 	
Feb 28	48¢ University of Manitoba (125th anniversary), booklet of 8 (two different barcodes on cover)	
Mar	48¢ Flag over Canada Post Building (booklet of 30) <i>reprint</i> with revised text on back cover (field stock version)	
Mar 22	\$1.25 Masterpieces of Canadian Art, pane of 16	
Apr 4	48¢ Laval University (150th anniversary), booklet of 8	
Apr 30	48¢ Toronto's Trinity College (150th anniversary), booklet of 8	
May 3	48¢ Tulips, 4 designs (booklet of 12)	
May 19	48¢ Coral (set of 4 in pane of 16 <i>and</i> souvenir sheet; joint issue with Hong Kong, China)	
May 27	48¢ Saint Mary's University in Halifax (200th anniversary), booklet of 8	
Jun 1	65¢, \$1.25 Tourist Attractions (booklets of 5 designs of each value)	
Jun 10	48¢ Canadian Sculptors: Leo Mol and Charles Daudelin (2 stamps), pane of 16	
Jul 5	48¢ Canadian Postmasters and Assistants Association 100th anniversary	
Jul 23	48¢ World Youth Day	
Aug 30	48¢ Tulips (souvenir sheet)	
Sep 4	48¢ Public Services International World Congress	
Oct 1	48¢ Stamp Collecting Month	
Oct 4	48¢ World Teacher's Day	
Oct 31	48¢ Communications technology (2 stamps: Guglielmo Marconi and 100th anniversary of the Pacific Cable)	
Nov 4	48¢, 65¢, \$1.25 Christmas: Aboriginal Art	

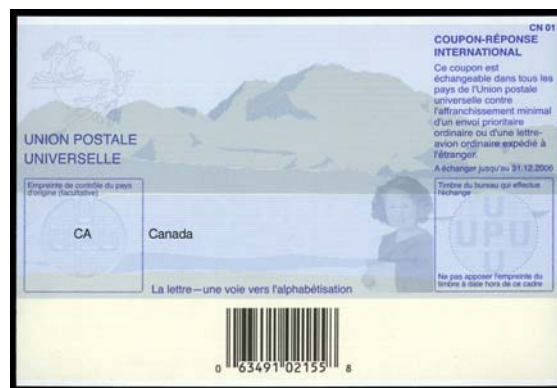
International Reply Coupon (Part II)

The last issue of the *Corgi Times* (Jan-Feb 2002, page 58) provided details on the newly released International Reply Coupon (IRC) by Canada Post and listed various 2-letter ending codes seen to date. Two more letter-codes have been reported: you can add AF to the list, as reported by Robert Lemire, and AG as reported by Robin Harris.

Here is an up-to-date list of known codes (as of March 23, 2002):

AA, AB, AE, AF, AG, AH, AM, AO

If you have an IRC with a different code we would like to hear about it — please contact the Editor.



Coil Display Cards

Canada's recent self-adhesive coils, as described in the last issue of *Corgi Times* (Jan-Feb 2002, page 61), are packaged and placed into cardboard display cards. This practice started with the 47¢ rate change definitives issued December 28, 2000 (four coils appeared: 47¢ Leaf and 60¢, 75¢, \$1.05 medium-value wildlife).

This year's 48¢ rate change definitives continued this new 'tradition' (four coils appeared: 48¢ Leaf and 65¢, 77¢, \$1.25 Traditional Trades).

Although the display cards are interesting collateral material, it is quite likely that very few collectors have paid attention to them. If you haven't been paying attention to these then you may want to start. Two of the display cards from the most recent group of four values *have been revised*. It is quite likely that the other two values will appear in the new style in the coming months.

The original printing of this year's display card have a black and white Canada Post logo near the bottom of the card. The revised cards appeared in late February 2002 and are found on the 48¢ Leaf and 65¢ Jewelry Traditional Trades stamps. They now have a *coloured*, slightly smaller Canada Post logo and revised text.



48¢ Leaf coil Display Card

Left: original printing released Jan 2, 2002

Right: revised printing first seen in late February, 2002

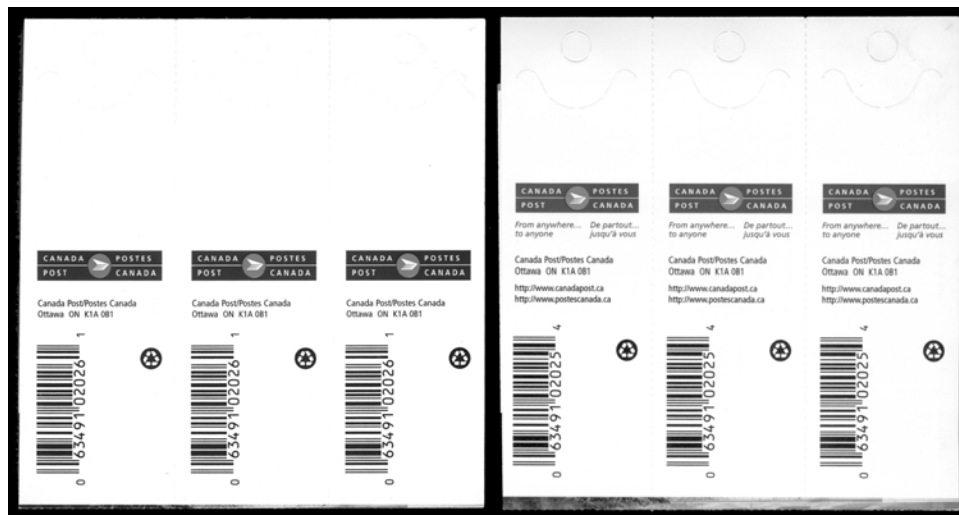
Both versions carry the same barcode and the stamps packaged in either display card do not show any differences.

48¢ Flag over Canada Post Building (Part II)

It didn't long for Canada Post long to release a reprint of the current 48¢ Flag over Canada Post Building booklet of 30 — just 2 short months!

The new booklet has a revised back cover which now carries a bit more descriptive text featuring a brief advertising slogan and the Canada Post's website URL. The barcode of the new printing is the same as the original *field stock* version.

The printer, paper, and stamps from the reprint are all the same as the original printing.



48¢ Flag booklet of 30

Left: original printing released Jan 2, 2002

Right: revised printing first seen in early March, 2002

Elizabethan II Market Place

Classified listings in the Market Place are \$1.00 for 25 words. Additional words are 5¢ each. Camera ready display ads (preferably 300dpi, black and white TIFF scans) pertaining primarily to the Elizabethan era will be accepted at the following rates: 1/8 page \$5.00; 1/4 page \$8.00; 1/2 page \$15.00 and a full page at \$30.00. 25% discount for four consecutive insertions of the same ad. Full payment must accompany ad. Payment in Canadian funds to: Elizabethan II Study Group. Mail to Editor: Robin Harris, 2708 Ferguson Avenue, Saskatoon, SK S7J 1N9, Canada. ♣

Booklets Wanted

I am seeking the booklets listed below. If you have any to sell or have any information about their original availability or otherwise please contact me.

- Bk153Ab 43¢ Flag. Open, with inscription. Writing at bottom of back cover CANADA POST... wholly in capitals
- Bk153Bb 43¢ Flag. New US rate (50¢) and International rate (88¢). **Open with inscription.**
- Bk153Cb 43¢ Flag. CP customer service back, 30% recycle symbol. **Open with inscription.**
- Bk154Bb 43¢ Flag. New US rate (50¢) and International rate (88¢). 50% recycle symbol. **Open with inscription.**
- Bk155Bb 43¢ QEII. New Us rate (50¢) and International rate (88¢), smaller Xpresspost advert on back cover. **Open with inscription.**
- Bk167Ab 50¢ Snow Apple. PP, CBN. CP customer service advert and 800 phone number on back cover. **Open with inscription.**
- Bk177c 45¢ Flag. LM, CPP. 50% recycle symbol on back cover. **Sealed, no inscription.**
- Bk177d 45¢ Flag. LM, CPP. 50% recycle symbol on back cover. **Open with inscription.**

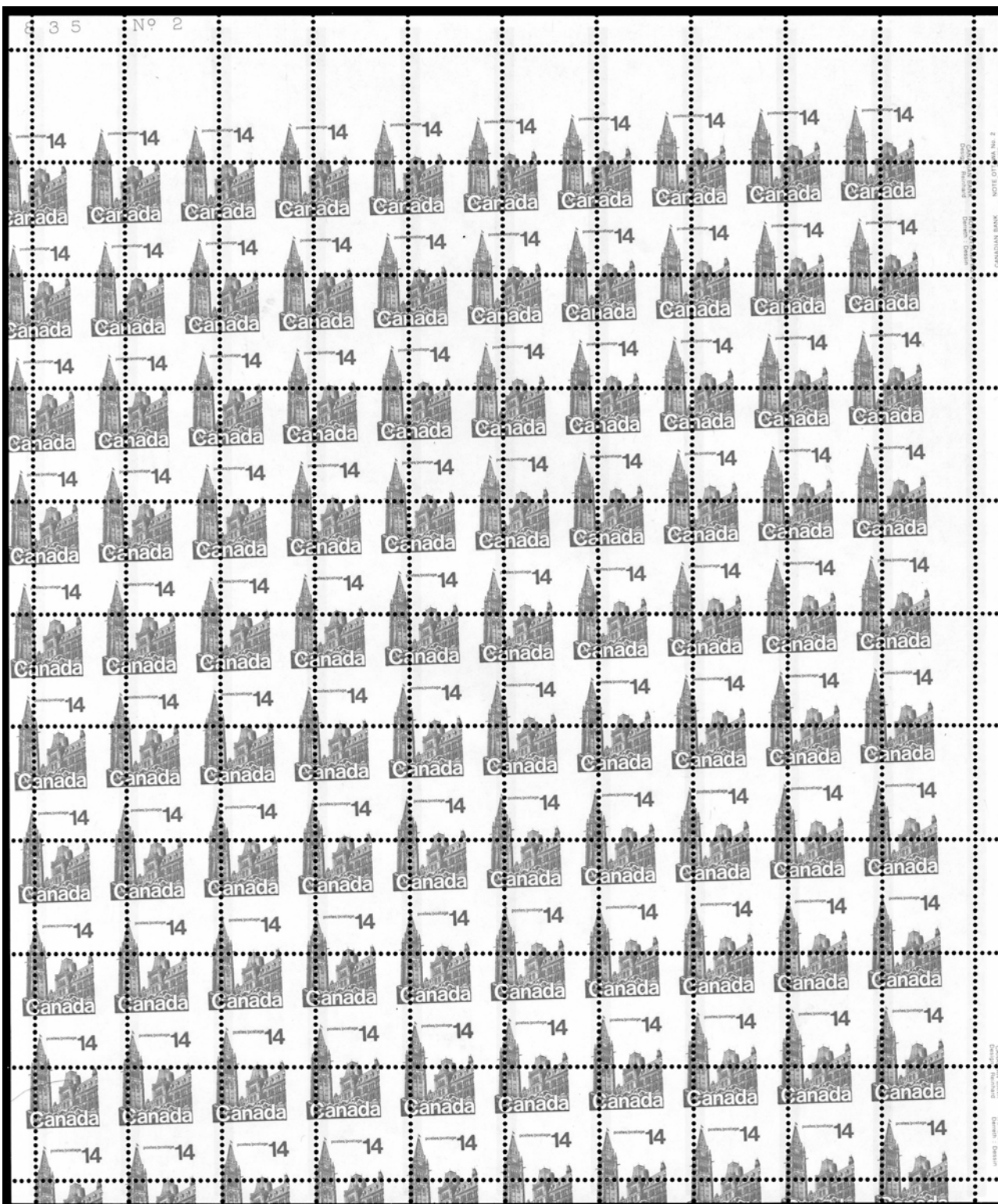
Please contact J. Eirwyn Jones, 10 Low Green, ATHERTON, Manchester. U.K. M46 9HS;
E-mail: eirwyn.jones@btinternet.com



Recent Errors and Varieties

14¢ Houses of Parliament (sc# 715) — Pane of 100 with dramatic perforation shift

Here is a major perforation shift that has recently come to light. This is from plate 2 of the 14¢ Houses of Parliament stamp, first released March 7, 1978. Take particular note of the inscription found in the upper left corner of the pane (normally trimmed off) and the extra plate inscription seen at the upper right corner that is from the adjacent pane.



14¢ Houses of Parliament (sc # 715) — dramatic perforation shift

Courtesy Saskatoon Stamp Centre

Greetings Stamps — Second Series

by: Robin Harris

Picture Postage and “miscellaneous labels” illustrations courtesy Andrew Chung

Greetings Stamps were first issued in Canada in 1994. The concept is simple — Canada Post provides a booklet containing self-adhesive stamps and a group of labels/stickers featuring different occasions/events/themes. The writer applies the stamp to the envelope and then chooses the appropriate Greetings label and applies it to the central portion of the stamp.

An article in the Nov–Dec 1997 *Corgi Times* (pgs 51–55) summarized the first series of Greetings Stamps (1994–97) and provided checklists and sorting tips.

This article includes information on the second series of Greetings Stamp, first introduced in the spring of 2000 at the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada’s stamp exhibition (ROYAL 00) in Winnipeg, Manitoba.



The second series of Greetings Stamps in Canada, currently in use, are proving to have an abundant number of designs as did the first series of Canadian Greetings Stamps.

Stamp Design

The first design of the second series of Greetings Stamps was quite simple: an elegant gold border framing a blank middle rectangle. A special occasion label, included within the booklet of 5 stamps, is placed in the blank, middle portion of the stamp. The result is a “picture worth framing”, as the picture is surrounded by the ornate gold frame.

To date, four separate issues of second series Greetings Stamps have appeared. The original design has the face value (46¢) and CANADA inscribed on the stamp once. Subsequent issues have the value and CANADA placed on *two* sides of the stamps. This allowed for horizontal and vertical placement of the self-applied centre labels.

The third and fourth issues offered *five* different border designs, instead of just one. The latest issue, released in the fall of 2001, are non-denominated.

Picture Postage™

New to this series of Greetings Stamps is *Picture Postage*™. This is the ability where *you* can have your own personalized postage stamp. You supply a photo of your choose, submit it to Ashton Potter, the printers of the Greetings Stamps, and they supply you with a sheet of 25 stamps and 25 labels featuring the photo you submitted. The most popular ‘theme’ with this, of course, is to have a photo of *yourself* appear on a Canadian stamp! The cost — \$24.95 for 25 stamps, or about \$1 to mail a letter.

Stamp / Label Usage

There are 5 possible configurations of usage of these second-series Greetings Stamps:

- the Greetings Stamp used by itself *without* any label in the middle. This kind of defeats the purpose of the *Greetings* concept. However, it is possible that the user had already used the desired label and applying a different label may not have offered the sort of greeting intended.
- the Greetings Stamp with an accompanying label as provided in the booklet.
- the Greetings Stamp with an accompanying label as provided in a *different* booklet.
- the Greetings Stamp with a hand-drawn or user-created label.
- the Greetings Stamp with a *Picture Postage* label as ordered from Canada Post.

™ Booklet Summary

Here is a summary of the four different booklets of second series Greetings Stamps. Each booklet appeared in a philatelic and field stock version — each having a different UPC barcode on the back cover.

Issue Date	Face	Prter	Paper	Barcode		BK#	Stamp design						Labels										
				Field	Phil		Gold Leaf	Christmas	Silver	Mahogany	Roses/Love	Baby	Heart	Pen	"Thank You"	Maple Leaf	"Surprise"	Angel	Sleigh	Tree	Santa	Holly	Baby Slippers
Apr 28/00	46¢	AP	J	01736	01740	BK227	1853† [25]						x ¹	x ¹	x ¹	x ¹	x						
		Dull		0	7																		
Oct 5/00	46¢	AP	J	01826	01755	BK232		1872† [25]										x	x	x	x	x	
		Flecked		8	1																		
Dec 28/00	47¢	AP	J	01796	01797	BK240	1882b [25]	1882e [25]	1882a [25]	1882c [25]	1882d [25]		x	x	x	x						x	
		HB		4	1																		
Sep 21/01	(47¢)	AP	J	02040	02041	BK246	1918b [25] [10] ²	1918e [25]	1918a [25]		1918d [25]	1918c [25]	x	x		x						x	x
		Dull		7	4																		

Field and philatelic stock booklets have different barcodes on the back cover — the numbers shown are the last digits.

† five stamps of the same design per booklet.

First number is Scott number.

The number in parentheses indicates the number of stamps in a pane of *Picture Postage*.

² this pane of 10 is *free* (plus shipping/handling!) with a coupon from Fuji film.

¹ These labels appear a bit 'flat' and have a bit less detail compared to the subsequent releases:

- < the revised Heart is at a different angle than the original.
- < the revised Pen has sharper details.
- < the revised "Thank You" has an outline around the text.
- < the revised Maple Leaf is brighter.

The chart above shows that there are 12 different stamp designs and 11 different labels provided within the booklets (four of which, as indicated by the ¹, were revised slightly in subsequent printings).

In theory, the different labels can be used on *any* of the various printings/designs of stamps. That is, the Heart label found in the original booklet (BK227) could conceivably be found on the 46¢ Gold Leaf and any of the other 11 stamp designs!

Thus, if you combine the 11 labels (and no label) with every possible combination of 12 stamp designs, you can end up with 252 possible label/stamp combinations! Happy Hunting! Ok, realistically there are 72 legitimate combinations.

™ Labels

The booklets contained the *same* number of labels as there were stamps. This is different from the first series of Greetings Stamps where multiple examples of various labels were supplied. Thus, once you used a particular label, that 'theme' was no longer available from the same booklet. You either have to buy another booklet to get a similar label, use the stamp without any label, or draw/create your own central theme onto the stamp.

™ Picture Postage™

The Greetings Stamps designs encourage you to place a label into the official postage stamp. This label can be one supplied within the original booklet **or** you can submit your favourite photograph to Ashton Potter and a payment of a significant amount and receive in return a pane of 25 stamps and your photograph as an inner label — ie. *Picture Postage*™.

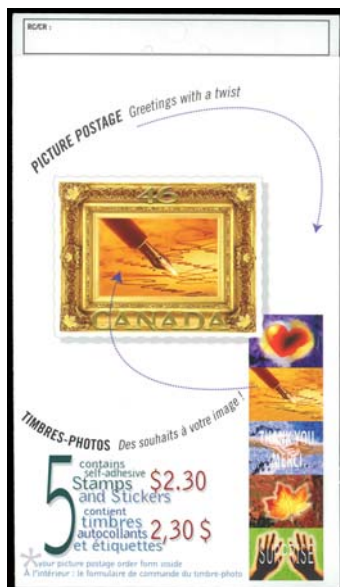
This first issue of the second series of Greetings Stamps introduced the concept of *Picture Postage* to the public. The booklet itself contained 5 postage stamps of the same design (Gold Leaf frame) with 5 different labels for different occasions. All of the labels are oriented in a horizontal format and the postage stamp reflects this — a single 46¢ denomination centered at the top and CANADA centered at the bottom.



Scott# 1853
Gold Leaf frame

The pane of stamps is dull under an ultraviolet light. Under normal light, the pane appears significantly 'flatter' than the following issues of stamps. The 5 labels also have this flatter affect. This is important in differentiating 4 of these labels from subsequent booklets where the design was repeated but with sharper details.

The inside of the booklet cover included an order form for the *Picture Postage* — panes of 25 stamps at \$24.95 each.



BK227
Front cover



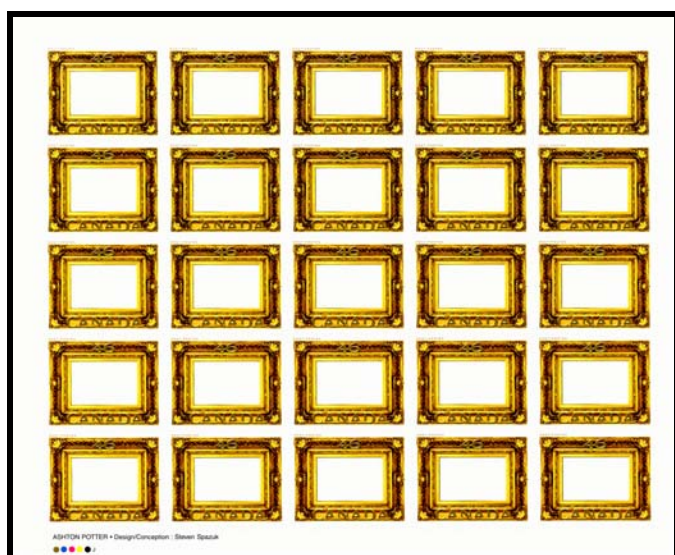
BK227
Back cover
Barcodes: 0 63491 01736 0
0 63491 01740 7



1853a
Pane



1853b
Picture Postage advertising pamphlet



1853b
Picture Postage — Pane of 25



1853b
Picture Postage — Pane of customized labels

This booklet was issued in time for the Christmas season — 5 stamps of the same Christmas design and 5 Christmas-oriented labels.

Two (or three, depending upon your perspective) of the labels were designed to be applied to the stamp in a *vertical* format. As such, the stamp design had to allow for either a *horizontal* placement on the envelope or a *vertical* orientation. Indeed, there are *two* Canada 46 inscriptions on each stamp!



Scott# 1872
Christmas frame



BK232
Front cover



BK232
Back cover
Barcodes:
o 63491 01826 8
o 63491 01755 1



1872a
Pane



1872(b)
Picture Postage advertising pamphlet

Greetings Stamps — Labels			
BK227, Sc# 1853a	BK232, Sc# 1872a	BK240, Sc# 1882	BK246, Sc# 1918

This was the rate change issue, from 46¢ to 47¢. This booklet contained 5 *different* stamp designs with 5 different labels. All 5 label designs had been used in previously issued booklets. They can, however, be differentiated. This was the only booklet of Greetings Stamps issued on hi-brite paper. In addition, the designs are much sharper and have more detail than the first issue.



Scott# 1882a
Silver frame



Scott# 1882b
Gold Leaf frame



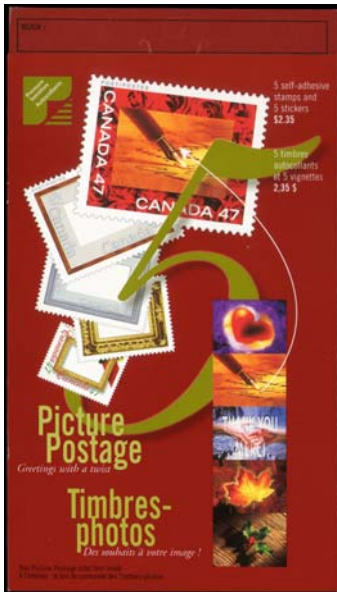
Scott# 1882c
Mahogany frame



Scott# 1882d
Roses frame



Scott# 1882e
Christmas frame



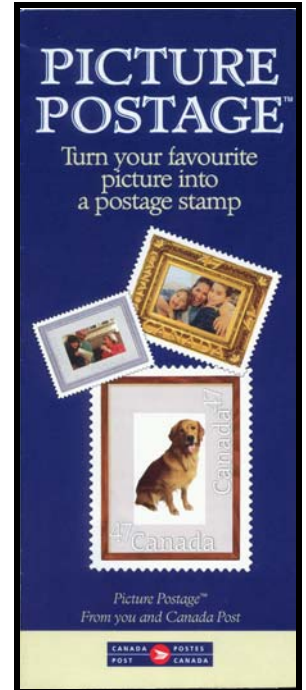
BK240
Front cover



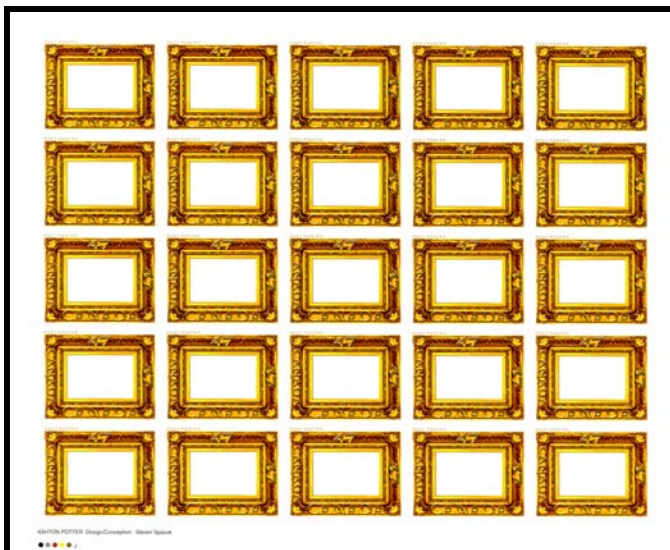
BK240
Back cover
Barcodes: 0 63491 01796 4
0 63491 01797 1



1882
Pane



1882(f)
Picture Postage advertising
pamphlet



1882(b)
Picture Postage — Pane of 25

The first non-denominated Greetings Stamps. The original selling value was 47¢ per stamp (ie. \$2.35 per booklet). With the 2002 rate change to 48¢, the selling price of the booklet price has increased by a nickel.

A new stamp design featuring a baby theme replaced the mahogany frame introduced in the previous issue.



Scott# 1918a
Silver frame



Scott# 1918b
Gold Leaf frame



Scott# 1918c
Baby frame



Scott# 1918d
Roses frame



Scott# 1918e
Christmas frame



BK246
Front cover



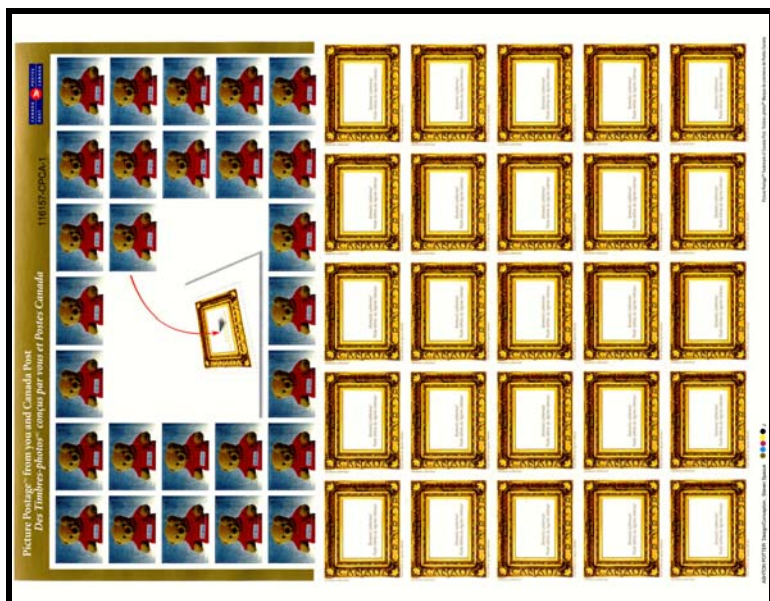
BK246
Back cover
Barcodes:
0 63491 02040 7
0 63491 02041 4



1918
Pane



1918(f)
Picture Postage advertising
pamphlet



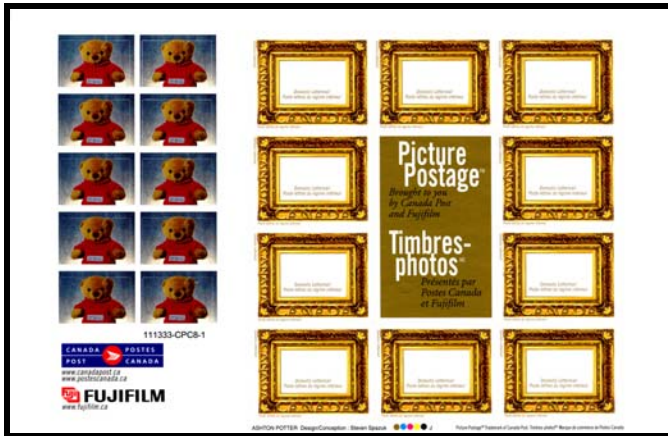
1918(b)
Picture Postage — Pane of 25 with labels

TM FUJIFILM Promotion

Fuji Photo Film Canada Inc., on specially marked packages of FUJIFILM (3-roll packs), is offering a *Picture Yourself on A Stamp FREE* promotion.

It is not quite *free*, but it is a lot cheaper than the approximately \$1/stamp of the *Picture Postage*. For \$5 (including tax), you can receive a sheetlet of 10 stamps and 10 labels incorporating your photo.

The stamp design that is used is the Gold Leaf frame from the fourth issue: Scott# 1918b.



1918(b)

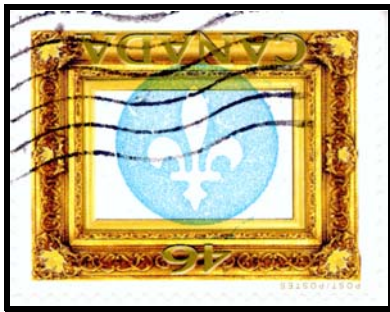
Picture Postage — Pane of 10 from Fujifilm promotion



Fujifilm 3-roll film pack promotion

TM Miscellaneous Labels

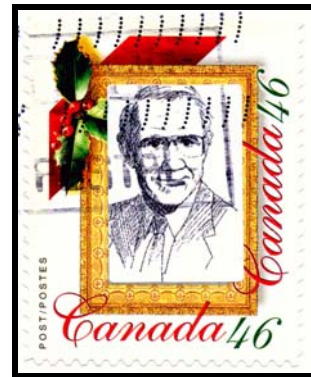
We will never know how many customized pictures and/or labels have been created by the general public. Here a couple of samples that have been spotted.



1853
with Boy Scout emblem from rubber
stamp



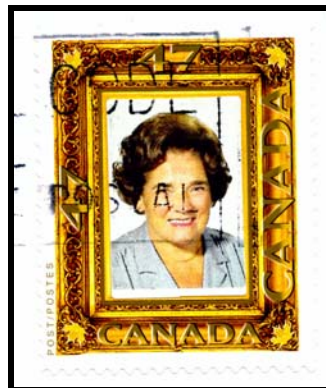
1853
photograph of dogs



1872



1882a
scenery



1882b
person



1918b
FUJIFILM company

Limited Edition Items in the 2001 Canada Post Collection Packs

by: *Brian Cannon*

Canada Post produces pre-packed sets of most stamps issued in each quarter, followed at the end of the year by a beautiful coloured, hard-covered album, complete with most of the stamps of the full year. I say most, because some varieties are not always included, such as the 1998 Lunar Year souvenir sheet, and the self-adhesive bird stamps of the past couple of years.

However, many collectors are unaware that significant varieties of other issues often turn up, that are completely distinguishable from the regular issues placed on sale at post offices and philatelic counters. One prime example is the inverted die-cut 2000 Petro Canada stamp that was documented in previous issues of the *Corgi Times*.

First Quarter

The year 2001 was a good year for unique items in the pre-packed collections. The first quarterly pack consisted of the definitive and commemorative issues released from January to March. Two items of interest are found in this collection.



47¢ Flag (Sc# 1707)
from Quarterly Pack

The **47¢ Flag** definitive, released on 2000-12-28 was included, as it was issued too late for the last quarter pack of 2000. This self-adhesive stamp was produced in booklets of 10, printed by the Canadian Bank Note company, and booklets of 30, printed by Ashton Potter. Both companies produced the stamps without the simulated perforations common to newer self-adhesives. In order to collect a single stamp, one had to remove the surrounding stamps (and perhaps use as postage) and cut around a single, creating a margin as wide as one desired. However, Canada Post needed a quicker, simpler way, so they had the printer produce a certain quantity of single stamps by die-cutting right through the backing.

This created a unique officially produced issue, without *any backing margins*. This is a similar format to the Petro Canada issue of 2000. However, that issue had a more complicated die cut than the 47c flag. One might think that skilled hands with a sharp knife could duplicate the “simple” cutting of the 47¢, well just try it! As a side note, all the 47c cut-through issues I have seen have come from the CBN printing in the booklets of 10. This is distinguishable by the wording on the backing paper, and also the “white” shade of flag on the stamps. The CBN printings tend to be more yellowish, with the Ashton Potter more bluish. This 47¢ Flag die-cut-through stamp also appeared in the 2001 Annual Collection Album.

The only other significant variety to appear in the first quarter pack was the **47¢ denominated Picture Postage Issue**. The set of five with accompanying labels was issued in booklets consisting of a single pane glued to a cover folded over. It is impossible to remove the pane without leaving damage or glue remnants on the back. However, the quarterly pack, and the 2001 Collection Album contained the complete pane, issued alone *without* the cover. The back, of course, does *not* have any traces of ever being attached to a cover. In reality, it is a true miniature sheet, and therefore a unique collectible item.

Second Quarter

The second quarter pack contained the stamps issued from April through June. Only one item of significance is found in this collection. A commemorative booklet of eight self-adhesives stamps was issued for the **25th anniversary of the Toronto Blue Jays**. These stamps were die-cut to shape, and as per the 47¢ Flag definitive, the single stamps included in the pack and the Annual Collection were cut right through, to shape. Of course, the die cutting is far more complicated than the rectangular definitive stamp, and the resulting item is a truly unique collectable.



47¢ Greetings Stamps (Sc# 1882)
from Quarterly Pack



47¢ Blue Jays (Sc# 1901)
from Quarterly Pack

The second quarter pack also contained the **two self-adhesive tourist booklets, 5 x 60¢ and 5 x \$1.05**. The items included were the philatelic editions, without the glued covers, which were also available at most philatelic counters. However, of major significance was the same issue included in the 2001 Annual Collection. *Both panes included were unfolded*, and cut to a smaller size, removing the descriptive text at the top and the margin at the bottom. Again, these are major varieties, in that they are unfolded between the top two and bottom three stamps. These stamps will be far more difficult to obtain as one must buy the complete 2001 Annual Collection in order to get them, since they were not in the far-cheaper quarterly packs. It must be noted that the Scott/Unitrade catalogue now lists past unfolded perforated panes that originated from previous packs.

Third and Fourth Quarter

The third and fourth quarterly packs did not contain any items of significance. Both the Roses and Balloons self-adhesive booklets had partial panels cut from the originals, but they are indistinguishable from what one can cut from the complete booklets issued in post office format.

Future articles will cover varieties that have appeared in the quarterly packs and souvenir collections of the past. ♣



60¢ Tourist (Sc# 1903)
from Quarterly Pack



\$1.05 Tourist (Sc# 1904)
from Quarterly Pack

'P'hilatelic 2001 Christmas Booklets

In the November–December 2001 issue of the *Corgi Times* (page 34), it was mentioned that the 2001 Christmas booklets issued November 1, 2001 included a small 'P' in the lower left corner on the back cover of philatelic booklets.

There were three Christmas booklets issued: 47¢ (pane of 10), 60¢ (pane of 6), and \$1.05 (pane of 6). All three booklets came in a field stock and philatelic versions.

It was presumed that the 'P', placed to the left of the UPC barcode, signified 'P'hilatelic.

To date, *no* other booklets have appeared with this 'P'. Was the 'P' placed on the Christmas booklets as a one-time experiment? ♣



Detail of P in lower left corner.



\$1.05 Christmas booklet
Philatelic